

Pauline S. Sibley
Clover Dick, W. Va.
September 5, 1940
Chapter 6 section 2

BROWNS CREEK M. P. CHURCH

The Browns Creek class was organized some time not long after the Civil War. I have not found any of the old church records, or none of the Methodist Protestant records available date back prior to 1908. No one seems to know what became of the old ones up to that time. But, I did find in the home of Amy Moore an old Sunday School record that dated back to 1889. It gave the adult class as follows: James W. Herrick, Jr. ex Supt., Adam Moore, Charles L. Geare, William Y. Moore, Floyd Moore, Jacob Laury, John Laury, J. W. Logan, Dora Webbert, John M. McLaughlin, W. W. Webbert, Sallie Moore, A. W. Curry, Bettie M. Moore, Wm. F. Webbert, Matilda Webbert, J. W. Laury, George B. Griffin, Annie Moore and Mary A. Curry. The record shows these same people enrolled year after year.

At this time they worshipped in an old school house that stood near where the home of Mrs. Annie McLaughlin now is. In 1877 a new school house was built ~~at~~ ^{by} ~~the~~ ^{William} ~~and~~ ^{Moore} ~~the~~ ^{Charles L. Moore and William Moore} and the church services were moved to this new location. In 1908 this school was consolidated with the Huntersville school and the Browns Creek school house was bought and dedicated as church by the Methodist Protestant members, but when the Methodist churches were united this class was officially transferred to the Methodist church at Huntersville. The church is no longer used.

The church roll for 1908 gives the following people as members of this church. William Moore, Walter Grimes, Wallace McLaughlin, M. A. McLaughlin, Beatie McLaughlin, Sallie Moore,

Mrs. Annie McLaughlin, Ivy Moore, Mrs. Joseph Gabbert, Mrs. Sadie Gabbert, Nellie Gabbert, Birdie Gabbert, Anna Mary McLaughlin, Minnie M. Phillips, and Ada Grimes. In 1910, the Gabbert family moved away and they were transferred to Hador Creek. It will be noticed that a few of the names last appeared on the Sunday School record also appears on the church record, although many of those on the S. S. record had passed away before 1908.

The Moores, McLaughlins, Gabberts and Grimes have always largely made up this congregation. The Moores were about the earliest settlers on Brown Creek and the descendants still live there.

Some one had started to use the old S. S. record to make a fire and had torn out some of the pages, and Amy Moore had brought it to her home to keep it from being destroyed.

At the time this class was transferred to Huntersville there were only ten members.

Some of the ministers who have served this congregation are S. H. Winters, J. H. Mathers, M. D. Sloan and Arthur W. Love.

William Moore, one of the faithful and loyal members of this church had a heart attack and died in the church while he was there for the morning worship.

BROWN MOUNTAIN

This was always a school house appointment served by the same pastor as were the other S. S. appointments.

Records show that this class was organized by Rev. U. P. McNeill on Sept. 4, 1912 and was made up of the following members. Elizabeth Sampson, Richard Sampson, Edward Sampson, Cinda Sampson, Birdie Gabbert McLaughlin (transferred from Brown Creek),

and also Collins. It never even to be a very big class and seems to have been dropped as a preaching appointment in 1918. The last church services of any kind held at this place was by Amy Moore who held a Bible Study class there as a part of her Adult Education program. This was in 1937-39. There is no services of any kind there at the present time.

DOWNSIDE CREEK and GOURMANS CREEK

These two appointments are not mentioned by Mr. Barnes, but church records show that there were small classes organized at both of these places as early as 1908, perhaps organized before that, as I said before that none of these records go back further than that.

The Gourmans Creek class had sixteen members in 1908. Isaac P. Dean, Rebecca A. Dean, Claude Dean, Manila Dean, Lucy Dean, Nash Alderman, Fabe Alderman, Wm Alderman, Clarence Alderman, Carl Dean, William Horke, Mary Horke, Cecil Dean, Forest Dean, and Catherine Simmers. *These were school house appointments.*

From church records-- and people in the various communities, Rev. Simpson and Rev. Fowler.